









In pursuance of the amended deed of settlement, three directors go out by rotation at this meeting, viz.—T. C. Breillat, Esq., J. B. Darvall, Esq., M.L.A.; and John Fairfax, Esq., Esq. Two forms of whom are eligible for re-election. Mr. Fairfax having left the colony on a visit to Europe. It therefore devolves on the meeting to elect three directors out of the candidates who have given the requisite number of signatures, and who are eligible for re-election. The candidates are:—Mr. John Fairfax, Esq., M.L.A.; Mr. George Stabler and George Ferguson, Esq., both retired, but Mr. Ferguson is eligible for re-election.

The extension of the bank proposed by now approaching completion, and the joint half-yearly meeting will be held in the new board room, and be payable on and after Wednesday, 1st February.

Latest share of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	
To capital paid up	£497,906 0 0
Surplus in circulation	108,409 10 0
Deposits and other liabilities	886,866 7 5
Profit and loss	38,231 0 0

Reserve fund .. .. .	£1,611,506 17 8
By coin .. .. .	£102,544 8 2
Bullion .. .. .	11,985 13 5
Government securities .. .. .	44,700 0 0
Notes of other banks .. .. .	2,485 0 0
Bank premises .. .. .	69,618 19 11
Bills discounted, and other debts due to the bank .. .. .	1,405,162 16 2
	£1,611,506 17 8

PROFIT AND LOSS.		
Dr.		
To current expenses, head office and 24 branches including rent, salaries, and 10 per cent. written off bank furniture and fittings .. ..		\$17,489 12 0
Interest, including rebate, exchange, and commission paid .. ..		25,174 13 10
Bank premises, in reduction of account .. ..		2,000 0 0
Dividend and bonus for the year, at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum .. ..		31,250 0 0
Reserve fund .. ..		5,000 0 0
Balance .. ..		2,958 0 0
		\$83,127 6 10
Cr.		
By gross profits for half-year .. ..		\$81,183 15 7
Premium on shares, carried to reserve fund .. ..		282 0 0
Balance from 30th June, 1864 .. ..		1,711 10 6
		\$83,127 6 10
RESERVE FUND.		

To balance .. .. .	Dr.	55,000	0	0
		<u>55,000</u>	0	0
By balance brought forward ..	Cr.	50,000	0	0
Amount from profit and loss ..		5,000	0	0
		<u>55,000</u>	0	0

T. C. BREILLAT, Chairman,

A. H. RICHARDSON, General Manager,  
Examined and found correct,  
GEORGE STABLER, } Auditors.  
GEORGE FERGUSON, }

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, the report was adopted.

Messrs. J. B. Darvall, M.L.A., Edward Lord, and George Stabler, were elected directors, and Messrs. George Ferguson and R. Binnie were elected auditors.

A vote of thanks was awarded to the directors, and to the manager, for their services during the past half-year, and the proceedings terminated.

"S. G. HENTY, Chairman."  
BALANCE SHEET.  
At 31st December, 1864.  
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.		
To Marine losses, adjusted and paid	..	£133 2 9
Unsettled claims ..	..	742 8 6
Preliminary expenses ..	..	938 13 10
By Balance b/d		

Salaries ..	£274 11 8		
Office rent ..	175 0 0		
Advertising ..	70 19 9		
Stationery, &c. ..	290 7 3		
Sundries ..	175 8 5		
	£1296 7 1		
Agency, commissions, and charge ..	345 14 1		
		1,602 1 2	
Reinsurance premiums, adjusted and due ..		3,579 7 3	
Balance being profit on the operations of the company to date ..		8,734 19 8	
		£15,730 12 7	

Salaries .....	£574 11 8		
Office rent .....	175 0 0		
Advertising .....	70 10 0		
Stationery, &c. ....	260 7 3		
Sundries .....	175 8 5		
	£1296 7 1		
Agency, commissions, and charge .....	345 14 1		
Reinsurance premiums, adjusted and due .....		1,602 1 2	
Balance being profit on the operations of the company to date .....		3,579 7 3	
		£15,780 12 7	
Cr.			
By Net premiums .....	£14,863 8 4		
Less returns, for short interest, &c. ....	639 11 2		
Interest received and accrued to date .....		£14,223 17 2	
Comm. Indian .....		1,226 9 11	
Comm. London .....		268 5 6	
Transfer fees .....		12 0 0	
		£15,780 12 7	
LIABILITIES.			
To Subscribed capital .....	£300,000 0 0		
Bills payable for reinsurance .....	1,386 12 1		
Outstanding accounts for reinsurance, &c. ....	1,375 19 11		
Unsettled claims, adjusted but not yet paid .....		742 6 6	
Balance profit and loss account, as above .....		8,754 19 1	

	<b>ASSETS.</b>	
By Capital uncalled ..	£240,000	0 0
Loans on mortgage ..	23,500	0 0
Elected deposits ..	38,000	0 0
Cash in Bank of Australasia ..	4,174	14 6
Premiums and interest due ..	2,486	17 7
Agents' balances due at this date ..	741	14 11
Bills receivable ..	5,929	6 9
Office premises ..	289	0 0
Office furniture ..	127	7 2
<b>E. and O. E.</b>	<b>£312,239</b>	<b>19 7</b>

Melbourne, 21th January, 1865,

	<b>ASSETS.</b>	
By Capital uncalled .. ..	£240,000	0 0
Loans on mortgage .. ..	25,500	0 0
Fixed deposits .. ..	35,000	0 0
Cash in Bank of Australasia ..	4,174	12 2
Interest due and interest due ..	2,486	14 7
Agents' balances due at this date	7,411	14 11
Bill receivable .. ..	5,929	6 9
Office revenue .. ..	280	0 0
Office furniture .. ..	127	7 2
<b>E. and O. E.</b>	<b>£312,239</b>	<b>19 7</b>

Melbourne, 24th January, 1865.

**DAVID MOFFAT, Secretary.**

Examined and found correct  
**ROBERT GUDEMANN, } Auditors.**  
**WILLIAM BOYD, }**

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**AUSTRALIAN JOINT STOCK BANK.**

THE half yearly general meeting of the shareholders of this bank was held yesterday, at noon. Mr. T. C. Brellin in the chair.

The Manager read the following report and balance-sheet—

"The Board of management have much pleasure in submitting to the shareholders the accounts for the half-year ending 31st December last, from which it will be seen that

<p>The gross profit of the bank has amounted to £81,133 15s. 7d. and that after deduction of interest, rebate, commissions, exchange, and all other payments, and working expenses, there remains for appropriation the sum of £38,513 0s. 3d. The account is as follows:—</p> <p>Balance of undivided profits from last half-year</p>	£71,110 6
<p>Net profits for the past six months, after deducting rebate on current bills, and all expenses of management, and after writing off £2000 of the reserve bank (previously in Sydney, and 10 per cent. for bank premiums at the branches on account of furniture and fittings, and after providing for all bad and doubtful debts.</p>	36,519 9
<p>Premiums on unliberated shares sold</p>	282 0
<p>Together</p>	£107,912 5

Transfers of profit of the bank has amounted to £81,131 15s. 7d. and interest, rebate, commissions, and working expenses, the exchange and all other's rents, and working expenses, there remains for appropriation the sum of £38,513 0s. 3d. The account is as follows:—		
Balance of undivided profits from last half-year .. .. .	£1,711 10 6	
Net profits for the past six months, after deducting rebate on current bills, and all expenses of management, and after writing off £2000 on account of bank overdrafts in Sydney, and 10 per cent. for bank provisions at the branches on account of deposits and fittings, and after providing for all bad and doubtful debts .. .. .	36,519 9 9	
Premium on unallotted shares sold .. .. .	282 0 0	
Together .. .. .	£38,513 0 3	
Which the Board recommend to be appropriated in the following manner,		
To reserve fund .. .. .	£5,000 0 0	
To dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. and bonus of 2½ per cent. equal to 12½ per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital of the bank and in pursuance of the deed of settlement, they declare the dividend accordingly .. .. .	31,250 0 0	
		36,250 0 0
Leaving balance of undivided profits carried forward .. .. .	£2,263 0 3	
The reserve fund at the commencement of the last half-year was .. .. .	50,000 0 0	
To which there is now added .. .. .	5,000 0 0	
Making the reserve fund at this date .. .. .	£55,000 0 0	

These are favourable results of the past half-year, and the growing business of the bank in safe and profitable transactions, points to the time when a further call for capital will be required.

Shareholders are again reminded of the great value of their co-operation and influence in enlarging the circle of the bank's customers.

Seven new branches have been added to the establishment, four in New South Wales, and three in Queensland.

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private hands, which will most probably, swell this total by nearly, if not quite 1000 ounces. It must be remembered that this large amount has been purchased within the last ten days, and has been secured by popular subscription. Only a few diggings have returned to the steamers, and they speak most satisfactorily of the general prospects of the mining population on these diggings.—*Nelson Examiner*, January 11.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE do not contain any news of importance. By the *Herald* of the 7th inst., we see, "Advantage was taken of the presence of the Ministers here to consult them on certain points of special interest to this province. It is a subject of the greatest importance, the balancing of the compensation in debentures, bearing interest at eight per cent., and saleable in three, two or three years; but it does not appear that they could promise to do so before March next, as the plate for the debentures has not yet been ordered, and the money will have to come, will have to be engrained in Sydney. They were not inclined, we hear, either to undertake an investigation of the capabilities of the Sugar Loaves for the purpose of carbonyl, or to share in the expense of such an investigation."

PENNY POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.—On the 26th of DECEMBER last, an important proclamation, fixing a penny

THE CONFISCATION OF NATIVE LANDS.—Adverting to the article in the *Times Herald* of 70 January, which marks "No doubt in England the word 'confiscation' will be taken as a text by our enemies for further slanders, if that is possible; and the *Saturday Review*, which plays the same game of denigration, and which, however, has little more contempt for colonists than for the native nature in general, will take the opportunity of saying, 'The Government have done this kindly or not. We should be content to leave the matter for judgment in the hands of men like Mr. Clive or Mr. Forster, or even like those in the *Spectator* and *Edinburgh Review* who write about—write on such a chilly subject as New Zealand affairs. But there are many people not intentionally unfair to the natives, who will be glad to see the Government stray by words, and do not make any effort, at least any successful effort, to realise the state of things here. To them 'confiscation' in New Zealand means what it would mean in England, and is a word which implies an unoffending and oppressed, as driven to take up arms to avenge cruel wrongs, as fighting nobly, and at last driven to the bay of blood, and the bay of tears, and the bay of greater pain which they have cultivated for generations past, and which are now to be taken to satisfy the greed of

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the land remaining for distribution among the settlers will prove a minus quantity. Of this view of their conduct therefore, the "grasping settlers," like the dog in the fable, have grasped unwisely at the shadow, and lost the substance. Whatever may be thought of it elsewhere, confiscation is the only punishment which can be inflicted on the Moories short of depriving them of life or liberty, and the only one they will admit both the force and the justice of; and, when enforced with moderation, while it punishes

We have Brisbane papers to the 28th ultimo per the Lady Young steamer.

The *Daily Guardian* of that date remarks:—Those who were present at the Bishops' meeting held lately in Brisbane, will remember the tone of brazen and confident asser-

“We will send men from town to town to see that no ‘Pai Maris’ are allowed to come into the country, and that no ‘miracle’ at any time, due preparation and management be allowed.”

At the fall of the *Hawke's Bay Herald* to the 17th instant, which reports—“During the last few days, there has been a large assemblage of natives in town. Most of them are from the Waikato country, and have come to the superintendent for the sale of land, and the formation of road connecting that district with Napier. Several chiefs have come up from the Waikato to dispose of fresh tracts of land. We are informed that the natives of the district at Mohaka of upwards of 100,000 acres—part of the recent purchases, and that there is a growing disposition on the part of the natives to sell their lands to the Government of Europeans among them. The tribes to the eastward of the province are, however, an exception, not being generally so well disposed.”

The same paper mentions that during the last few days there has been a large assemblage of natives in Hawke's Bay. They have come from the Waikato country, and are in treaty with the Government for the sale of land, and the formation of a road connecting that district with Napier. Several chiefs have also come up from the Waikato to dispose of fresh tracts of land. We are informed that the natives of the district at Mohaka are surveying a rich fertile district at Mohaka of upwards of 100,000 acres—part of the recent purchases—and that there is a growing disposition on the part of the natives to encourage the settlement of Europeans among them. The tribes to the eastward of the province are, however, an exception—not being generally so well disposed.

**THE U-RE-NATIVES.**—It is pleasing to learn that the natives are great defectors of the natives to the “Pai Maris” superstition. The natives of the Waikato are ruined rather than weakened in their previous religious belief by the absurdities and false pretensions of the new religion. At a meeting of the natives of the Waikato on the river last Sunday the Rev. R. Taylor was at Rungia, and he gave a very favourable report of the loyal

decided it to be their intention to live quietly and make no attack on the Government natives at present, and that they are trying to make the loyal natives believe that they have no great crime in cutting off so many of their countrymen. Taylor, however, told them that they ought to remember that they stood not only in defence of their own lives, as well as those of the Europeans, and of their religion, but also of the Government, and that if they did not also, had the victory not been gained by them, they would not have been spared, as the very officers were prepared to cook them in, although they were near relatives, and that they were nearly as just one in the sight of God and man. They said, for although they themselves carefully avoided plundering the dead, some of their allies had done so, and had stripped them of their ornaments, moccasins, and arrows.

should make a sin-offering to God, and had thought they should to Mr. Taylor's call to repair their church, not only in remembrance of Hemi (a teacher who was killed at Moutoua who built it, but also as a sin-offering to God, and to Mr. Taylor's amazement £17 16s. was placed in the plate for that purpose. This with £7 given at the Christmas meeting, makes a sum of £25 for this laudable purpose and there is little doubt but that many of their pakeha friends will willingly aid their efforts, and have only to wait in order to give the required assistance. The renovated Church they are anxious to make one worthy of the cause.—*Wanganui Chronicle*, 14th January.

the *South-Western News* of the 12th of January says:—The Maudslough panic has almost completely died away, and the party who gave rise to it are quietly settled upon the sandhills between Kajahra and the Manukau Heads. It is no small advantage that at least this *one* source of anxiety should have been removed, or rather should so quietly have removed itself, and seems to furnish another of those instances of amazing good fortune which appear to attend Sir George Grey like a fate wherever he goes or however he may become involved in difficulties seemingly inextricable.

military strength to the south is understood to be in progress, and has, it is believed, some relation to the subjugation of the tribes between here and Wanganni, and the accomplishment of the junction by roads and military posts, of this province with that of Wellington. This seems to prove the determination of the Government to carry through the policy suggested in Mr. Donnet's memorandum, leaving the control of public affairs, before the Fox administration, succeeded, or the Weld one, which seems to have suggested nothing, was in existence. If, however, this last can succeed in perfecting or even to an extent developing that plan it will deprive much of the reason for the present

	Store.	Stock.
New Zealand	£1400	£250
North Island	2000	3000
North British	2000	2000
Victoria	2000	2000

A little before midnight of the 19th, a fire broke out in the stores of Messrs. J. S. Macfarlane and Co., Queen-street, Auckland. It burned with such fury, that before three o'clock in the morning, everything was consumed. The following is a corrected list of the amount of the insurance on the stock and store destroyed:—

	Store.	Stock.
New Zealand	£1400	£2200
Northern	2000	3000
North British	1000	1300
Victoria	1000	1000
Imperial	1000	3000
	£2400	£2400
		£400
Total amount.....		£21200

We take the following extracts from the papers.

**ARRIVAL OF 1450 OUNCES OF GOLD.**—The Walbays and the Nelson arrived last Monday from the West Coast, bringing by far the largest amount of gold yet ever reached us on that date. The former was signalled at an early hour, and her arrival created a considerable amount of excitement in town, in consequence of the report that she had brought no less than 1300 oz. of gold.

the produce of the Okitiki (Grey) gold-field. Although this amount will be found among the Customs receipts by the Wallaby, we have reason for believing that 675 oz. was the amount actually received by her, distributed in the following proportions:—Bank of New Zealand, 495 oz.; Union Bank, 100 oz.; and the Union Bank, 80 oz. After a capital ran of twenty-five hours, and brought in 740 oz., 700 of which were consumed by the Bank of New South Wales, and 40 oz. to the Union Bank, making a total, with that brought by the Wallaby, of 1416 oz. Besides this amount, we have reason to believe that

[illegible]

Bank's plan equally ineffective, as the results already developed, and to be developed before the end of the year, will clearly show. In truth, the nature of the negro cannot be changed by the offer of more money or less money; all he desires is to eat, drink, and sleep, and to be free from the oppression of labour. The difficulties in procuring a fair amount of labour on plantations are insurmountable. In the first place, instead of having a family cook for the whole body of the hands engaged in field work, each separate family and each individual bachelor and maid must have a separate replacement and cooking establishment going on—so that the thirty or forty negroes who are employed on a plantation, consuming much of the time that German and English hands would require to do the same work, Bank's orders directed to be given to the field. Again, I always had a hospital and nurses for the

sick, and a children's house, with a good motherly nurse, and a woman to take care of the children, while their mothers were sick. I had a very good nurse, and all changed round me, and I was the only one when sick will go to the children's house. The result is that many of them lay up for days and weeks, when not sick, by hiding away, and when really sick requiring nursing. Now, anyone who has been in a hospital with the least attention can see that this system must be enormous, and this, too, independently of the total lack of full time and faithful labour, when ostensibly performing their labours in the field. I am satisfied that I should not receive more than half what I would be considered to be worth for the same labour from the labourers I have employed. I have upwards of 100 labourers employed on my plantation, including old and young, but it is seldom that more than a half-dozen of all grades, can be found at work. The majority of the labourers are of the lowest class, may be, but have been brought in order, I am satisfied, and have been brought in order, I am satisfied, that I have tried to get on orderly and efficiently as far as it has been in my power; but it would require

sick, and a children's house, with a good motherly woman to take care of the children, while their mothers are sick. Now, all is changed; not one sick, not one child. Now, all is changed; not one when sick will go to the children's house. The result is that many of them lay up for days and weeks, when not sick, by hiding away, and when really sick requiring a nurse for nearly every one sick. Now, anyone with the common sense can see that the loss of time must be enormous, and that the result must be a total lack of full time and faithful labour, when ostensibly performing their labours in the field. I am safe to say that I do not receive more than half what would be considered by any impartial judge as fair wages. I have been employed, I have been paid upwards of 100 labourers employed, and I have had including old and young, but it is seldom that more than sixty, of all grades, can be found at work. It may be asked why I do not apply to the provost-guard, and have them brought to order. I answer that I have done so, but they are not so easily as far as it has been in my power; but I must require the provost-guard to be constantly on the move to bring and continue things in any proper working order. Well, at the commencement of this year, 1864, I was in possession of the property of the provost-guard, with General Banks's orders, and made it the interest of the provost-guard to go on faithfully and make a good crop; but the provost-guard does not need all the time. The result of the year's work is thus far known—viz., from 300 acres in cotton, less than 20,000 lb. seed cotton; about one half, or at most one-third of corn enough to support the place another year; and the remainder of the land is now ordered by General Banks, to be sown up for seed the amount of seed required for the place. I have no more of sugar, I must be thankful. I am really fearful I shall not make enough to pay expenses of working the place, saying nothing of interest on capital. My remarks above I have said that the ordinary labouring population of the plantation before the war kept it in perfect order, and good crops were being ordered, but under the present order of things, not a ditch has been dug—the old ditches and draining canals are all being fast filled up with

be prepared to be constantly on the move to order. Well, at the commencement of the war I fell in with General Blake's orders, and made it the interest of my labourers to go on faithfully and make a good crop; but the work was an uphill business, and the result was that the year's work was just fast enough to get the seed for the next year from 20,000 lb. seed cotton to produce in cotton, 1 bushel, or 120 lb. of seed, and the loss of the most of the two-thirds corn enough to support the place another year; or, cane, after putting up for seed the amount ordered by General Blake, if I make fifty hogheads of sugar, I shall be thankful. I am really fearful I shall be obliged to pay expenses of working the place, saying nothing of the loss of the year's crop. In my remarks above I have said that the ordinary labourers engaged on my plantation before the war kept it in perfect repair and in good working order, but under the present order of things, and draining canal, and digging the old ditch with the hoe, and the weeds growing up with bush from five to seven feet high. The fences are all rotting down, the buildings are decaying and going to ruin, with no means of preventing or remedying the evil, for I cannot get half labour enough performed to work the place, and the result is that the place is going to the present condition of things! Whereas, before the war, the eye rests on nothing but the relics of former things fast passing to destruction. No living thing can be raised with the least likelihood of enjoying it when grown. Stealing is the order of the day!

"I will begin by stating that I have been planting cane and cotton on the estate where I now reside for thirty-seven years on the 1st of January next. Before the war began my plantation and its working material were worth and would readily have sold (for cash) for, at least, \$50,000 dollars. Its products were of superior quality, of sugar from 400 to 1,000 hogsheads, and from

200 to 2000 barrels of molasses per year, with sufficient corn for the use of the plantation. The improvements necessary for keeping the plantation in first-rate working order were made, such as buildings, machinery, &c. The management of the plantation was performed by the labour that made the crop and was attached to the plantation, with the exception of some outside labourers—such as engineers, carpenters, and bricklayers, occasionally employed. The number of men and women on something over 100—making, say, 75 or 80—good field hands of men and women. Another item was indispensable in keeping a sugar plantation in a condition to be profitable—viz., the securing of a good market for the produce. The following is a fair statement of my experience since we have been working our plantations under military orders and regulations.

On the 26th of October, 1862, the army under General Butler, having taken the La Crosse plantation, proceeded to enquire into the rights of labourers on plantations, but General Butler soon issued his order for the regulation of labour, and the planters went to work to try and save the crops. I started to leave work with all but one of the hands, but that individual, who was with me, contrary to agreement on my part to pay to each labouring man one dollar per day (and found them in food and clothing as usual, of course), and to the women in proportion, refused to do so, and would not operate at all in my favour. This was my first experience

already, with good fair labour, to have boiled at least 800 hogheads of sugar. The result was that with the incentives in the way of money and moral suasion in my way, the crop was increased by 100 hogheads militarily to keep order, 1 at last, after burning up nearly all the wood above mentioned, finished the crop with something less than 100 hogheads of sugar. The crop was made, or rather cultivated under the new system, which was the result of my saving it under the new system. The crop of 1863 was begun under the most promising agencies in every thing but the quality of the labour by which it was to be worked, to wit—the ratoon or stubble cane kept growing, and the very well inclined, but thoughtless, there was but little contact of cane and soil, and with good cultivation a very fair crop of sugar could have been made. The result is known—less than 40,000 hogheads in the State. With the loss of but 200,000 bushels of cane, and the loss of 100,000 bushels of large breadth in cane, I gave it the best cultivation I could under the circumstances, and at the commencement of sugar-making the standing crop of cane was considered good for 800 hogheads of sugar. Well, I lost all the energy and perseverance I was capable of, and I lost the white man's bugaboo, and I lost the 200,000 dollars worth of wood (for it was out of my power to get wood enough cut by the hands attached to the plantation), I was at last forced to give up, leaving about 100 hogheads of sugar. This crop was the result of cane and soil, 100 acres, planted before the change in the labour system. The above result was the first year's working under General Banks's regulations, and the result which was greatly encouraged by the assurance myself that the cane raised by the free labour system would yield three times the amount of products that was produced under the former system. This year of 1864 we began working the crops under new regulations, by order of General Banks, which was to give the cane to the labourers to increased exertion, but I am sorry to say not with a particle of effect in bringing forth more faithful labour. I had faithfully tried to get the cane to the money reward, as I mentioned above, but it did not work, and I was forced to give up.

Bank's plan equally ineffective, as the results already developed, and to be developed before the end of the year, will clearly show. In truth, the nature of the negro cannot be changed by the offer of more money or less money; all he desires is to eat, drink, and sleep, and to be free from the control of labour. The difficulties in procuring a fair amount of labour on plantations are insurmountable. In the first place, instead of having a family cook for the whole body of the hands engaged in field work, each separate family and each individual bachelor and maid must have a separate cook, and cooking establishment going on—so that the thirty or forty negroes who are employed on a plantation, consuming much of the time that German hands would require to be given to the field. Again, I always had a hospital and nurses for the

sick, and a children's house, with a good motherly nurse, and a woman to take care of the children, while their mothers were sick. I changed no more, and I was not obliged to change any more, except one when sick will go to the hospital, and the children to the children's house. The result is that many of them lay up for days and weeks, when not sick, by hiding away, and when really sick requiring no more care. Now, anyone can see that the result of this with the least attention can be made to be a great deal more must be enormous, and this, independently of the total lack of full time and faithful labour, when ostensibly performing their labours in the field. I am satisfied that I should not receive more than half what I now receive, if I were to be considered as doing the same labour from the labourers I have employed. I have upwards of 100 labourers employed on my plantation, including old and young, but it is seldom that more than twenty, of all grades, can be found at work. The rest are either sick, or have been sent to the hospital, or may be, and have been brought in order, I am satisfied, that I have tried to get on orderly and efficiently as far as it has been in my power; but it would require

order—guarantee to be constantly on the move to bring and remove any proper working order. Well, at the commencement of the year, I fell in with General Banks's orders, and made it the interest of my labourers to do so faithfully as they could; but the work was an up-hill business all the time. The result of the year's work was, I am known—viz, from 300 acres in cotton, less than 20,000,000 worth of sugar; and from another two-thirds of the same, to supply one half, or at most one-third of the same, to supply the other half of the year; of cane, after putting up for seed the amount ordered by General Banks, if I make fifty hogheads of sugar, I shall be thankful. I am really fearful I shall not make enough to pay expenses of working the place, saying nothing of interest on capital.

Q.—What have you said to the ordinary labourers engaged on the plantation, when they were kept in but perfect repair and in good working order, in under the present order of things? not a ditch has been dug—the old ditches and draining canals are all being fast filled up with

and grown up with business from five feet to fifteen feet, and the trees are falling down. The buildings are decaying and going to ruin, with no means of preventing or remedying the evil, for I cannot get half labour enough performed to work an apology for a crop as it should be worked. Such is the state of the world of things! Wherever you look the eye rests on ruin and decay, and the world is fast passing to destruction. No live thing can be raised with the least likelihood of enjoying it when grown. Stealing is the order of the day!



## DIARY

## TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

YASS.

Tuesday, 4.30 p.m.

At the Quarter Sessions to-day, the following cases were disposed of. Charles Watson, for obtaining money under false pretences, was sentenced to five months in Yass gaol. Barnett Phillips, on a charge of larceny, was acquitted. John Griffin, convicted of horse stealing, sentenced to seven years' hard labour on the roads. William White, for feloniously wounding

ing, found guilty and sentenced to eighteen months in  
Yass gaol. Thomas Petty, for escaping from gaol,  
sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

**BRAIDWOOD.**

Thursday, 21st.

The escort taken 3043 oz. 18 dwts. gold, and the specie.

A heavy thunderstorm passed over here on Sunday. The weather is now fine.

Prisoners have been put to work on the streets here.

**GOULBURN.**

Tuesday evening

The escort to-morrow takes down 126 ounces 18 dwts. of gold.

A subscription has been started

A subscription has been started at Collector for the family of Nelson, who was shot by Dunn, the bush-ranger.

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WEST MAITLAND.

Tuesday, 6--

At the Quarter Sessions, to-day, John Newton and John Vigors, charged with cattle-stealing, were acquitted; Michael Stevenson, for assault, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment; Thomas Kinsaid, for unlawfully stabbing, eight months' imprisonment; Charles Hanlan, for cattle-stealing, the same term.

J. Goulston, of the Little Wonder boot and shoe shop, has absconded; a Sydney firm is in possession.

**MELBOURNE.**

A question was asked in the Assembly having reference to the action of the Government in the application of the Shenandoah for permission to rest, the Government promised particulars to-morrow.

The Upper House is discussing a bill to alter the

The tariff is still being discussed in the Assembly. A deputation from the boot and shoe trade waited on Mr. McCulloch today, and asked him to place

Parcels of wheat per Aldinga sold at 9s.  
Flour is unchanged.

Ritchie, of Collins-street, engaged in the flour trade, had a meeting of creditors to-day; his debts are about £1000.

Alcock and Co., billiard-table makers, offer £500 reward for the manufacture of the first web of cloth suitable to the requirements of their trade.

**MAURITIUS.**  
**VIA MELBOURNE.**

The Sarah brings advices to the 19th ultimo. The favourable news from England led to more firmness in

the market. Purchases for the colonies were made at 7 dollars 50 cents to 7 dollars 75 cents for first white crystals; 5 dollars 60 cents to 6 dollars 25 cents, for yellow crystals; syrups quoted at 5 dollars 60 cents to 6 dollars.

The Midas was loading for Adelaide; and the

Adelaide for Melbourne.

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QUEENSLIFF.

Tuesday, 10.50 p.m.

The ship John Fraser has landed her sick and

The Mont Riant, while getting under way, grounded on the Marco Polo Shoal, near Swan Spit, and lost 25 feet of her false keel. The Lioness is engaged to get her off.

**ADELAIDE.**  
Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Election meetings are becoming general throughout the colony. For some districts, there is considerable difficulty in obtaining candidates.

Business very quiet. The corn market is dull, with

**ARRIVED.**—Julie Heyn, from Newcastle; Gazelle Camden, and Armistice, from Sydney; Anna, from

**SAILLED.**—Sea Shell, and South Australian (s.), for Melbourne.

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**SUDDEN DEATH.**—The City Coroner held an inquiry yesterday, respecting the death of Agnes Parsons, who died unexpectedly on Monday. Deceased suffered from a severe

headache on Sunday and Monday, but otherwise showed no symptoms of illness. Dr. O'Brien was of opinion that death was caused by rupture of a large blood vessel of the brain. Coroner's finding—"Deceased, aged fifty-six years, died from natural causes."

**DEATH AT THE PHOENIX WHARF.**—A seaman named Joseph Wright, in charge of a schooner at the Phoenix wharf, died of a heart attack on Monday afternoon.

W HART, was seized with a fit, and died there, yesterday morning. An inquest is to be held.

THE COMET AS SEEN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Herschel Babbage, in a communication to the *S. A. Register*, writes as follows relative to the comet now observable in the heavens:—"I think that there can be but little doubt that the splendid comet now visible soon after sunset is the celebrated comet of 1843—by far the most remarkable that

has been seen during the present century' (Herschel)—come back to us again as predicted by Sir John Herschel. This astronomer, after discussing the probabilities of the real period of this comet being 214 years, and not 175 years, as determined by most observers, says, in his 'Outlines of Astronomy'—'Should this view of the subject be the true one, we may expect its return about the year 1802, in which

end of 1864 or beginning of 1865, in the event it will be observable in the southern hemisphere, both before and after its perihelion (nearest distance from the sun) passage.' This comet is particularly remarkable for the nearness of its approach to the sun, as it passed in 1843 within one-seventh of the sun's radius of its luminous surface, and was exposed, according to Sir John Herschel, to a glare equal to 47,000 of each

suns as ours appears to us, and to a heat which would melt cornelian, agate, and rock crystal. The great comet of 1680 did not approach the sun nearer than double the distance of our comet; and yet Newton calculated the heat to which it was exposed to be two thousand times that of red-hot iron. The comet of 1843, and I think I may say of 1865, appeared in 1668, when its tail, which appeared long before

its head can above the European horizon, what we regret that its reflection could be seen on the sea; and I am convinced that the tail of our comet also might readily have been seen last night reflected on a moderately calm surface of water. The comet of 1813 was clearly visible in full daylight in the sun's immediate vicinity, when it resembled a pure white cloud, as distinctly defined as the moon itself. I did not see our comet until last night on coming out of

church, about nine o'clock, when its appearance gave me the impression of a falling rocket seen through a slight haze, arrested in mid career. I venture to say that the interest which this comet will excite in the scientific world in Europe will be very great, and it is no slight disgrace to South Australia and its Government that, although we have had amongst us for some years a perfectly qualified

observer, our observatory is still <sup>farther</sup> <sup>than</sup> <sup>any</sup> <sup>other</sup> <sup>observatory</sup> <sup>on</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>continent</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>North</sup> <sup>America</sup> <sup>possesses</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>decent</sup> <sup>telescope</sup>, or any beyond the common means of making observations upon so interesting a subject as the one who nightly appears in our western horizon."

**THE CROPS AT GUNNEDAH.**—A correspondent of the *Trumcorth Examiner* at Gunnedah reports that the small quantity of wheat grown and garnered in that neighborhood, as also of oats and lucerne hay, is of the very best.

that could be calculated upon by the most sanguine innovator; and they have now growing in the greatest luxuriance paddocks or fields of maize which promise more than an average yield—there are numerous stalks in some favourable patches upwards of fourteen feet high, containing or sustaining from three to four cobs each.

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